

The Caledonian Mercury.

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ON CLUBS.

Quo me cunque rapis semperas deferor hospes.

I REMEMBER to have read in some philosopher (I believe in Thom Brown's works) that let a man's character, sentiments, or complexion, be what they will, he can find company in London to match them. If he be splenetic, he may every day meet companions on the seats in St. James's Park, with whose groans he may mix his own, and pathetically talk of the weather. If he be passionate, he may vent his rage among the old orators at Slaughter's coffeehouse, and damn the nation that keeps him from starving. If phlegmatick, he may sit in silence at the Hum drum club in Ivy-lane, and if actually mad, he may find very good company at Bedlam, or the Foundery, ready to cultivate a nearer acquaintance.

But although such as have a knowledge of the town, may easily class themselves with tempers congenial to their own; a countryman who comes to live in London finds nothing more difficult. With regard to myself, none ever tried with more assiduity, or came off with such indifferent success. I spent a whole season in the search, during which time my name was enrolled in four societies, five lodges, six convocations, and meetings without number. To some I was introduced by a friend, to others invited by an advertisement; to these I introduced myself, and to those I went by the name of *Smith*, to gain admittance. In short, no coquette was ever more solicitous to match her ribbons to her complexion, than I to suit my club to my temper, for I was too obstinate to bring my temper to conform to it.

All my assiduity, however, has hitherto proved fruitless; the pleasures of one club I found consisted in arguing only, of another in singing, of a third in fortifying, and of a fourth in silence. Instead of finding them, as I expected, the seats of festivity, relaxation, and good nature, I was once induced to regard them as the pests of society, and that the members convened purely to shew who could be most disagreeable.

The first club I entered, upon coming to town, was that of the *Choice spirits*. The name was entirely suited to my taste, I was a lover of mirth, good humour, and even sometimes of fun, from my childhood. All this I was promised by an advertisement in one of the papers, and this I was determined to visit.

As no other passport was requisite but the payment of two shillings at the door, I introduced myself without further ceremony to the members, who were already assembled. They had for some time begun upon business, and the *GRAND*, with a smaller in his hand, presided at the head of the table. I could not avoid, upon my entrance, making use of all my skill in physiognomy, in order to discover that superiority of genius in men, who had taken a title so superior to the rest of mankind. I expected to see the soul beaming from the eyes, or the lines of the face marked with strong thinking, in the faces of those peculiar favourites of Heaven; but though I had some skill in this science, I could not for my life discover anything but pert ignorance, flat and profound stupidity.

My speculations were however soon interrupted by the *GRAND*, who had knocked down Mr. Spriggins for a song. I was upon this whispered by one of the company who sat next me, that I should now see something touched off to a nicety, for Mr. Spriggins was going to give us mad Thom in all his glory.

A pale young fellow, who sat at the head of the table, and who I found was the person pitched upon to exhibit on this occasion, endeavoured to excuse himself, for as he was to act a madman and a king, it was impossible to go through the part properly without a crown, and chains to rattle while he was singing. His excuses, however, were over-ruled by a great majority, and with much vociferation. The President, instead of letters, ordered up the jack-chain, and instead of a crown, our performer was obliged to cover his brows with an inverted pewter jordan. After he had stalked about the room in his shirt and breeches, rattled his chain, and shook his head, to the great delight of the whole company, he began his song. As I have heard few young fellows offer to sing

in company that did not expose themselves, it was no great disappointment to me to find Mr. Spriggins among the number; however not to seem an odd fish, I rose from my seat in rapture, cried out, Bravo! encore! and slapped the table as loud as the loudest.

The gentleman who sat next me, seemed highly pleased with my taste, and the ardour of my approbation, he called me a very honest fellow, and whispering told me, that I had suffered a great loss, for had I come a few minutes sooner, I might have heard Gee Ho Dobbin, sung in a tip-top manner by the pimple nosed spirit, at the President's right elbow, but having but one song, he was evaporated before I came. As I was expressing my uneasiness at this disappointment, I found the attention of the company employed upon a fat figure, who, with a voice more rough than the Staffordshire Giant's, was giving us *The Softly Sweet*, in Lydian measure, of Alexander's feast: After a short pause of admiration, to this succeeded a Welch dialogue, with the humours of *Teague and Taffy*; after that came on Old Jackson, with a story between every stanza; next was sung the Dust-cart, and then Solomon's song.

The glass now began to circulate pretty freely; those who were silent when sober, would now be heard in their turn; every man had his song, and he saw no reason why he should not be heard as well as another; one irritated the attention of the company, while he took off Mr. Lowe, another begged to be heard while he gave *Death and the Lady in high Taste*, while another sung to a plate, which he kept trundling on the edges. Nothing now was heard but singing, voice rose above voice, till the whole became one universal shout, when the landlord came to acquaint the company, that the reckoning was *drank out*.

Rablais calls the moments in which a reckoning is mentioned the most melancholy of our lives, and such I now actually found them: never was so much noise quickly quelled, as by this short but pathetic oration of our landlord; *drank out* was echoed in a tone of discontent round the table; *drank out already!* that was very odd! that so much punch could be drank out already: impossible! The landlord, however, seeming resolved not to retreat from his first assurances, the company was dissolved, and a president chosen for the night ensuing.

You cannot, Sir, be at a loss, whether I relished such extatick nonsense. To be sincere, I retired home heartily fatigued, and resolved never more to frequent a nest of dunces, who had neither variety to supply future entertainment, nor skill to enjoy the present.

A friend of mine to whom I was complaining the next day, of the manner in which I had passed the night, proposed to bring me to the club that he frequented, which he fancied would suit the gravity of my temper exactly. We have at the *Muzzy Club*, says he, no riotous mirth nor awkward ribaldry, no confusion or bawling, all is conducted with wisdom and decency; besides some of our members are worth forty thousand pounds; men of prudence and foresight, every one of them, these are the proper acquaintance and to such I will to night introduce you. I was charmed at the proposal: it at once promised me entertainment, and flattered my ambition. To be acquainted with men worth forty thousand pounds, and to talk wisdom the whole night, were offers that threw me into rapture.

At seven o'clock I was accordingly introduced by my friend, not indeed to the company, for though I made my best bow, they seemed insensible of my approach, but to the table at which they were sitting. Upon my entering the room, I could not avoid feeling a secret veneration from the solemnity of the scene before me, the members kept a profound silence, each with a pipe in his mouth, and a pewter pot in his hand, grave as if seated in the cave of Trophonius, and with faces that might be construed into absolute wisdom, or profound dullness. Happy society, thought I to myself, where the members think before they speak, where they deliver nothing rashly, but convey their thoughts to each other pregnant with meaning, and matured by reflection; this, this is the place to learn wisdom!

In his pleasing delusion I continued a full half hour, expecting each moment that somebody

would begin to open his mouth; every time the pipe was laid down, I expected it was to speak; but, alas! it was only to spit. At length resolving to break the charm myself, and overcome their extreme diffidence, for to this I imputed their silence, I rubbed my hands, and looking as wise as possible; observed that the nights began to grow a little *coolish* at this time of the year. This as it was directed to none in particular, none thought himself obliged to answer; wherefore I continued still to rub my hands, and to look extremely small, as the expression is. Resolving however, to make a dernier effort, addressing the gentleman who sat next me, I took notice that the beer was extremely good; *inire* but, I presume; to this my neighbour made no reply but by a large puff of tobacco smoke.

I now looked on my company as so many disciples of Pythagoras: till one of them undeceived me by observing that bread had not risen these three weeks; Ay, says another, still keeping the pipe in his mouth, that puts me in mind of our Molly, who broke her arm about two years ago, I'll tell you a pleasant story about that—hem—very well; you must know—but before I begin—Sir, my service to you—where was I?—I now found out my companions, and that what I had before taken for sense was only stupidity. Such men come into society merely to doze and swill; almost as destitute of perception as an oyster, which instinct teaches to open its mouth at the influx of the tide; they lead a life very little above vegetation; wherefore snatching up my hat, I walked away without further ceremony; my departure being as little regarded as my introduction.

The society to which I was introduced the following night was a club of *fashion*, and my admittance was to be regarded as a mark of peculiar distinction. On taking my place I found the conversation sufficiently easy and tolerably good-natured, for my Lord and Sir Paul were not yet arrived. I now found myself completely fitted, and resolved to seek no farther, I determined to take up my residence in this seat of festivity, while my temper began to open insensibly to the cheerfulness I saw diffused on every face in the room. But the delusion soon vanished, when the waiter came to apprise us that his Lordship and Sir Paul were just arrived. From this moment all our felicity was at an end, our new guests bustled into the room, and took their seat at the head of the table: adieu now all confidence, every creature now strove who most might recommend himself to our members of distinction. Each seemed now quite regardless of pleasing any but our new guests, and what before wore the appearance of friendship, was now turned into rivalry. Amidst all this flattery and obsequious attention however, our great men seemed to take very little notice of any of the rest of the company except each other. Sir Paul told his Lordship a long story of Moravia the Jew; and his Lordship gave Sir Paul a very long account of his new method of managing silk worms; he led him, and consequently the rest of the company, through all the stages of feeding, sunning, and hatching. With an episode upon mulberry-trees, a digression upon grass-seeds, and a long parenthesis about his new postilion. In this manner we were obliged to travel on, wishing every story to be the last, but all in vain, *Hills over hills, and Alps on Alps arose*. The story had now continued for an hour; and as I saw no appearance of its ending, I stole away just when his lordship was getting his worms into *full spin*. Though I was heartily surprised with quality, I could not help pitying those men who are willing to give up liberty and ease for the insipid satisfaction of being thought to live among the great, and who at last become insupportable to their equals by affecting the manners of company in which they are despised.

The last club in which I was enrolled a member, was a society of moral philosophers, as they called themselves, who assembled twice a week, in order to shew the absurdity of the present religion, and establish a new one in its stead.

As the vicar and I had long been at variance in the country, I had always a propensity to doubt of religion; I expected therefore to have my doubts confirmed into certainty, and promised myself some advantages from a society of Scholars, for such I supposed this to be.

I found the members very warmly disputing

when I arrived, not indeed about religion or ethics, but about who had neglected to lay down his preliminary six-pence upon entering the room. The President swore that he had laid down, and so swore all the company. During this contest I had an opportunity of observing the laws and also the members of the society. The President, who had been as I was told, lately bankrupt, was a tall, pale figure, with a long black wig; the next to him was dressed in a large white wig and a black cravat; a third by the brownness of his complexion seemed a native of Jamaica, and a fourth, by his hair, appeared to be a black-much. But as their rules will give a more just idea of their learning and principles, I must beg leave to transcribe a few of them; with which I shall conclude this letter, only observing that infidelity, like the models of dress, being thrown aside by the polite, now begins to be put on by the vulgar.

I. We being a laudable society of moral philosophers, intends to discuss twice a week about religion and priest-craft. Leaving behind us old wives tales, and following good learning and sound sense; and if it be that any other persons has a mind to be of the society, they shall be entitled to do so, upon paying the sum of three shillings; to be spent by the company in punch.

II. That no member get drunk before nine of the clock, upon pain of forfeiting three pence, to be spent by the company in tobacco.

III. That as members are sometimes apt to go away without paying, every person shall pay six pence upon his entering the room, and all disputes shall be settled by a majority.

IV. That six pence shall be every night given to the President, in order to buy books of learning for the good of the society; the President has already put himself to a good deal of expence in buying books for the club, particularly the works of Tully, Socrates, and Cicero, which he will soon read to the society.

V. All them who bring a new argument against religion; and who being a philosopher and a man of learning, as the rest of us, shall be admitted to the freedom of the society, upon paying six pence only.

VI. Whenever we are to have an extraordinary meeting, it shall be advertised by some outlandish name in the newspapers.

SAUNDERS M. WILP, President.
ANTHONY BARNES, vice President,
his clerk.
WILLIAM TARDIN, Secretary.

Since our last arrival in Mail from Flanders.
From the London Gazette, October 30.
Extract of a Letter from Capt. Potter, Commander of his Majesty's Ship the Hercules of 74 guns, to Mr. Cleveland, dated in Plymouth Sound, October 16, 1799.

ON the 10th inst. at eight in the morning, being in the Latitude of about 40 deg. 40 min. steering S. E. with the wind at S. W. we saw a sail to windward, which we tracked, and soon after discovered her top-gallant budding sails; let, and that she came down-lasking upon us: about noon the chase hoisted a blue flag on her main-top-gallant-mast-head, which we answered by hoisting an English ensign at the mizen-top-mast-head (a signal which is sometimes made between two French ships of war upon meeting after parting company) she heaved us very tall, and we plainly discovered her to be a large ship of war. At two in the afternoon, a Dutch galliot passing near us, we hoisted a French jack, and fired a shot at her; upon which the chase hoisted a French Jack at her ensign-staff, and fired a gun to leeward. At half past five, being about one mile to windward of us, and abast, our beam shined down, as before, seemingly with an intention of coming to action; as her guns were run out below, she hoisted her jack down, and hoisted her ensign and pendant; we then fired, and hoisted down the French jack; hoisted our colours, hoisted our ports up (which were until this time down) and run our weather-guns out; upon which she immediately hoisted her wind, and set her main-sail and stay-sails: we then discovered her to be a 74 gun ship, having 14 ports below, made sail and stretched a head of her, and tacked, passing her to leeward. At six tacked again, and stood after her; found she kept away large; we bore after her, keeping a little upon the lee-bow, to prevent her choice of the engaging distance. About three quarters after nine, being pretty near up with her, though not near enough to engage, she put her helm hard a-starboard, and gave us her larboard broadside, and then kept on as before, and gave us her starboard broadside. We then immediately starboarded our helm and ran right down upon her, whilst she was loading her guns;

and getting close to her, ported our helm, and began to engage as the guns bore upon her. At half past ten, we were so unlucky as to have our main-top-mast shot away, which she took the advantage of, and made all the sail she could from us; we did the same after her, and continued to chase until eight the next morning, when we saw the North end of Oleron, about five leagues distance. The chase was about four or five miles from us, finding it impossible to come up with her in so short a run, and engaging ourselves with a lee-shore, with our fore-yard shot through in two places, our fore-top-sail-yard so badly wounded, that when we came afterwards to reef the sail, it broke, and having all our sails and rigging very much shattered, (at which the enemy only aimed) we left off chase and wore ship; having one man killed, and two wounded, including myself, being wounded in my head by a grape-shot, and have lost the use of my right leg. The officers and men behaved with the greatest spirit and alertness, without the least confusion.

From the London Papers, October 30.

Naples, September 25. It is said that a prodigious augmentation is to be made in the Spanish troops.

It is thought the eight French men of war of de la Clue's Squadron, actually in the port of Cadiz, will not depart thence without a good convoy.

Genoa, Oct. 10. The day before yesterday a courier passed thro' here, who came from Warsaw by the way of Vienna, and was going thro' Rome to Naples; and yesterday morning another arrived dispatched by the court of Naples to Vienna and Warsaw. This last assured us, that his most Catholic Majesty embarked for Spain the 6th instant, and sailed the same day, with the combined Spanish and Neapolitan squadrons.

Vienna, Oct. 3. Recruits are raising every where to complete the troops of the Empress-Queen. Nevertheless a peace this winter is much talked of, and more wished for.

From General Imhoff's camp near Munster, Oct. 9. A few days ago M. d'Armentieres's corps quitted the Lippe, and, after a forced march, turned off towards Munster, to cover a small convoy of 300 waggons going thither. We observed his motions without attempting to molest him, because we thought his pains could not be confined to that small object, but that his indispensible superiority would engage him to attack us. In that expectation, General Imhoff lost no time in recalling his different detachments between Hiltrup and Munster, and prepared to receive the enemy at break of day; but they took advantage of the night, and retired hastily towards Dorelen. Our light troops went in pursuit of them, and continue yet to harass them. The blockade of Munster is renewed, and our advanced posts extend to Coesfeld.

From the camp of the Imperial and royal army at Hoff in Saxony, Oct. 11. Either by a battle, or otherwise, Field-Marshal Count Daun will hold Saxony, and make Dresden a place of arms. [A prophecy of Maubon, not yet quite fulfilled.] Count Marbach, who is just appointed governor of that city, employs 1000 men of the garrison and 1000 labourers on the fortifications. Prince Henry's army is about fifty thousand strong; his camp between Sirehen and Targau takes up a space of about two miles of ground, covered with woods, ditches, marshes, and intrenchments. Our camp lies between Oeschitz and Weyden. It will be a decisive stroke to cut off General Rebentisch from the Prince's army, which has no other communication with Leipzig.

Ratisbon, Oct. 11. France demands of the circle of Franconia a million and a half of rations at the price of 15 sols each; for one third of which they offer to pay ready money, and to make the payment for the two other thirds as soon as the finances of the crown shall be established.

Munster, Oct. 12. Prince Henry has detached several regiments to Leipzig. Count de Bulow entered that city the 6th instant with a body of infantry and hussars, and the next day three more battalions arrived there; so that the burghers who had before six or eight men quartered upon each of them, are now obliged to entertain twenty. This reinforcement was sent upon a supposition, that a considerable body of Austrians would march towards Leipzig.

It is reported, that General Haddick has desired leave to resign his command.

From Prince Ferdinand's head-quarters at Crof-dorf, Oct. 12. Not a day passes without some small skirmishes between our light troops and the French, which generally terminate to our advantage. The following may serve as a specimen of

their bravery. Cornet Leyser (or Luckner) being posted near Biel, to cover a bridge, and seeing a large detachment of cavalry and infantry advancing towards him, he put himself at the head of 12 hussars, with whom, making a most furious onset, he entirely routed the detachment, killing several, and making some prisoners.

Bayreuth, Oct. 13. The King being desirous to relieve as much as possible the inhabitants of the towns and villages between Franconia upon the Oder and Crossen, who suffered very much by the armies being in the neighbourhood, has ordered them a present of 1000 quarters of rye, and 1000 quarters of Rye out of his own magazine.

Hanover, Oct. 24. General Imhoff waits only for his reinforcements to attack M. d'Armentieres. In the mean time, he endeavours to secure the advantages he has gained over the French by repeated small skirmishes with them. At the same time he advanced towards Dornum by the way of Appelshusen, he expedited a large body of his troops towards Dornum. They were supported by some horse and foot, under the command of the Adjutant-General de Bulow. That officer marched with so much expedition and secrecy, that his whole corps was in sight of Dornum before noon. In order to render the surprise more certain, he separated from them, accompanied daily with six hussars. In short, the guard at the bridge foot was put to the sword, and those who went to their assistance were repulsed. During these transactions the alarm was spread, the French had time enough to shut the gate, and the time it took up for the Hessians and grenadiers to force it, gave the enemy an opportunity to evacuate the town. They fled across the fields, carrying with them very few of their arms, and small part of their baggage. Every thing did not equally succeed in that precipitate retreat. We took 2 Captains, 1 Lieutenant and 80 soldiers, prisoners. The next day a Lieutenant Colonel, who remained concealed in the place, and despaired of getting out undiscovered, surrendered himself. It is said that the prisoners taken, consisted of a detachment of the militia. We availed ourselves of the good disposition of the Germans in the service of France, they having desired to enter into our service. We reckon to form at least a regiment out of them. There is already a battalion ready to take the field.

L O N D O N.

The following is the decree of the Physicians appointed by his Catholic Majesty to examine into the condition of his eldest son: "We acknowledge, for just and well-founded, the judgment which his Majesty has formed of his Royal Highness, a judgment which equity drew from him in spite of paternal affection, and which many years care and observation have tended to confirm. We declare that the Prince Royal Don Philip, eldest son of his Catholic Majesty, is under so manifest imbecility, that the King cannot maintain his favour any of the dispositions which nature, tenderness, and the law, would otherwise solicit for his Royal Highness. We cannot admit any hope, that age, or other natural muration, will ever give health, or a proper portion of reason, to this Prince. It is certain that the infirmity is in the organs, and that it has its seat in the solid and nervous parts. 2dly, During so many years, after remedies of all kinds have been tried, after the remission of the fits of the epilepsy, which have even ceased for some time, the infirmity, far from diminishing, is increased. 3dly, Supposing that time and remedies might procure some little alleviation of the disease, yet a cure seems absolutely beyond the power of nature."

In Portugal a perfect calm seems to be restored; and people in general appear more contented than even the most sanguine friends of the court expected. This is believed to be owing to the suppression of the Jesuits, who, to carry purposes of their own embroiled all the world with their intrigues. At court there are fewer factions, the Clergy are more at peace with each other, the schools are better conducted, traders find an increase of business, there is much less scandal and caballing, private families are undisturbed, and those who had the most favourable opinion of those busy-bodies, are now glad they are gone.

The advices we have from Italy vary extremely. From Naples we write, that their troops are recalled from the frontiers; and that every thing wears the aspect of peace. From Rome, on the contrary, we are told, that his Catholic Majesty has great projects in view; and that an army of 40,000 men will be the constant establishment of the Two Sicilies. Letters from Milan say, that as by the death of his late Catholic Majesty, the King of Sardinia has an undoubted right to the Duchy of Placentia, it is thought he will not lose time in

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taking possession of it, for which no season can be fairer, no conjecture more favourable than the present. From Turin again we are assured, that all this is utterly repugnant to truth, and that his Majesty is far from intending to disturb the repose of Italy.

His Most Catholic Majesty has just nominated Don Esteyan Reggio, Prince of Yachi and Campo Florido, formerly his ambassador at the court of Spain, and Don Richard Wall, Lieutenant General of the armies of Spain, and first Secretary of State, and two of his Counsellors of State.

We learn from Dresden, that things are there in a very awkward situation. The greatest part of the army of the Empire are in the city, under the notion of a garrison, but in reality because there is no other way of keeping them together, as they lost their tents and baggage at the battle of Torgau; and their military chest has been employed for some time. Two Austrian Generals being dissatisfied with the Field-Marshal's conduct, have thrown up their commissions; on which the Field-Marshal has caused them to be arrested, upon suspicion of disaffection to her Imperial Majesty.

They write from Berlin of October 12th, that, according to some advices, the King is no longer acting in person against the Russians, but is actually in Saxony.

Letters from Paris still say that the Duke de Broglie will have the command in chief in Germany; the Lieutenant Generals his seniors having signified that they would cheerfully serve under his orders.

Accounts from Paris represent the court and government in the utmost confusion. At this juncture, the King seems to have adopted the new, or as some call it the Austrian system. The Archbishop of Paris is to be Almoner of France; the Prince and Duke of Broglie, (so he likes to be called) is to command on the Rhine; and the Duke de Choiseul is to conduct civil affairs. The Marshal Duke de Belleisle is displaced. But on the other hand, since his famous letter to M. Condé, he amazingly sunk in the public opinion, which rebukes him extremely. M. d'Estrees, it is now thought, will have the department of war; and some say, there will be entire change in the command.

It is said that the French ministry have sent orders to M. Condé, at all events, to come out of Breff, and engage the English fleet. This step is supposed to be taken, to endeavour to quiet, in some degree, the minds of the people, who are ripe for insurrection.

Some letters for Amsterdam run in this friendly strain: "England must lower her topmasts; there will in a few days be work enough cut out in Scotland and Ireland, to engage the attention of the British ministry in a more necessary work, than had destroying our trade and navigation."

They write from Hanover, that Mr. Aprado, a Portuguese Jew, hath resigned his employment of Contractor-general, for provisions and forage for Prince Ferdinand's army; to Mr. Oswald the English Contractor-general, and passed through that city the 7th inst. in his way to Cassel, to deliver his accounts to his successor.

By a letter from Hanover of the 16th instant, we have advice of a smart engagement that happened between a body of 100 Hanoverian hunters, and a body of French, under the command of M. Clermont, in which the latter were defeated, with the loss of 300 killed and taken prisoners; the rest, with their commander, made their escape.

A regiment is forming in Hanover, of Saxon deserters, into which the deserters from Fischer's corps are received.

We make the best use of the good inclinations of the German prisoners in the French service; who desire to take on us our troops; they are so numerous that we reckon to form at least a regiment of them; we have already a battalion fit to take the field.

The Sallerines have taken, and carried into Salée, a Portuguese ship from the Brazils, with 250 large chests of sugar, besides other goods bound to Lisbon. They have also taken a Martinicomman, and carried her off.

M. de Montcalm died on board an English ship. Before he expired, he generously said, That he got his death fighting against the bravest troops in the world at the head of the greatest poltroons that ever carried muskets.

It is said, that when General Wolfe had landed his troops, he sent a Message to M. Vaudreuil, signifying, that he was come to reduce that country to his Britannick Majesty's obedience; and desiring that he would give orders that there should be no scalping, as the like orders would be issued on his part. Vaudreuil, in his answer, expressed his surprise that the English should attempt, with such a small force, the conquest of

a country of such strength and extent; and added, that when the gasconading parade of the British fleet and army in the King's territories was at an end, he would return the two garrisons belonging to the fleet, who had been taken prisoners on the river.

We are informed that the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq. has wrote a letter of condolence to Mrs. Wolfe, the mother of the late brave General, expressing the loss the nation has sustained by the death of her son, and, at the same time, expatiating on the importance and glory of the cause in which he so nobly fell, as a lasting monument to his honour, &c.

A Jew, who has for some time transacted business on the Royal Exchange, has this day absconded, for sums (by Bills of Exchange) to the amount of near 40,000*l*. It is thought he is gone for Holland.

From the 1st to the 28th instant, 13657 quarters of wheat for the freights, 13335 quarters of wheat for Portugal, 1330 quarters of rice, and 2110 quarters of wheat-meal, have been exported from the port of London.

The convoy from Portsmouth is arrived at Gibraltar in fourteen days.

Sir Piercy Brett is, we hear, gone to cruise off Cape Clear, but has been joined by some ships that he took out of the Downs with him.

The commanders in quest of Thurot's squadron are Commodore Boys and Sir Piercy Brett.

Several troops of the light horse and dragoons have been marching from different quarters, for the coast of Kent and Sussex, for several days past.

Yarmouth, Oct. 31. On Tuesday three cutters in the service of the Government arrived in our roads from the Downs, and next day proceeded to get intelligence of Thurot's squadron, which was lately seen by some Dutch vessels off the isle of Oile, an admittance of the Texel, steering northward.

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, Oct. 28.

"On Friday the *Norwich* sailed to the westward. Yesterday the *Intrepid* sailed out of the harbour to Spithead, and the *Danae*, *Repulse*, and *Arethusa* frigates, and the *Hawke* sloop sailed from Spithead to the Bay. The *Lique* sloop is arrived at Spithead. The *Intrepid* was paid at Spithead this day, and we expect her to sail to-morrow or to-morrow morning. The *Cambridge* is alongside the ferry-head, ready to go into Dock, as is the *Rippon*. The bottom of the *Cambridge* has suffered greatly by the worms. At Spithead, Admiral Holburne, and seven men of war."

Dublin, Oct. 28. This day the camp in the Phoenix park broke up.

E D I N B U R G H.

By the Dutch mail which arrived too late to be insert in the London papers, we learn, that Prince Henry on the 14th kept still the same position near Sirehla. M. Daun who encamped between Olshatz and Weida, made some motions on the bank of the Prussian left wing, as if he intended to come to an action. The longer he defers coming to blows, there is the less probability that he will do so at all, as the Prussians are fortifying their camp, with the greatest assiduity, every day adding some new works, and the season is advancing very fast. The French have now entirely emptied the arsenal at Giessen of all their artillery and warlike stores; and it is thought they will soon go into winter-quarters. Prince Ferdinand still remains in his camp at Corfodoff, and is watching every opportunity to give them another touch, before he concludes the campaign.

The King of Poland has published a declaration at Warsaw, on the 18th October, offering a general pardon to all the Saxon deserters who shall return to their respective corps in three months from the date thereof.

The *Guerrier* and *Souverain*, the two French ships which escaped from Admiral Pocawen on the 17th of August, are arrived at Rochefort: the one came in on the 18th September, the other on the 11th October. The *Guerrier* had 14 men killed on the 17th of August, amongst whom was M. de Village de Ville Vieille, the Lieutenant, and 46 wounded. The *Souverain* had 18 men killed, and 32 wounded. This last fell in with an English ship of the same force, off the Isle of Oleron, which she fought very briskly for a long time, but several other English ships appearing in view, she thought proper to cheer off with the loss of 8 men killed, and 34 wounded.

[See the Gazette in the preceding page.]

Extract of a letter from the office on board the *Monmouth*, Commodore Hervey, off Brest, Oct. 21.

"Our little squadron, under our indefatigable and brave Commodore, has kept the sea during a true hard gale of wind, which forced the rest of

the fleet to run into Plymouth. Admiral Hawke is just again in sight, and we expect to be relieved from this fatiguing and troublesome station, especially as Commodore Hervey is laid up with the gout. We have just now been in very near Brest, and taken a fresh survey of the French fleet, which we found just as we left them."

A considerable French armament, in Quiberon Bay, having for some time past engaged our attention, very expressive orders have been just sent to Capt. Duff, who commands a squadron upon that station, to make a vigorous attempt; and if practicable, either take, burn, or destroy, all the enemy's ships, vessels, and other preparations for their meditated embarkation, and to frustrate their operations in that quarter. The news of this we eagerly expect."

The Princess of Wales, John Bearson Master, and the *Diligence*, Andrew Caffels Master, will be ready to sail from Leith for London, with first convoy.

Saturday last, a fire broke out in the farm yard of Mr. William Jeffries, attorney in Berwick, at Grindin in Northumberland, which raged with such violence, that before it could be extinguished, 20 large stables, with all his barns and out-houses were entirely consumed, to the amount of upwards of 1000*l*. sterling. It was supposed to have been wilfully set on fire by some malicious persons.

On Tuesday last, a young boy, belonging to one of the ships in Leith harbour, having been chastized a little too severely for some trifling fault, in a fit of despair, threw himself over the pier, and was drowned before assistance could be brought.

Thursday last, a sailor in Leith, who had long entertained a suspicion, that his wife carried on a familiar correspondence with a blacksmith in the neighbourhood, having received sufficient proof, as he thought, that his jealousy was well grounded, in a transport of rage, stabbed the smith in the throat and several other places, and then made off. Proper care being taken of the wounded man, it is thought he will recover.

Yesterday evening, serjeant Paul of General Leighton's regiment dropped down opposite to the city guard, into which he was carried and expired soon after.

This forenoon, the proclamation for the Thanksgiving on the 29th of November next, for the reduction of Quebec, was read at the cross with the usual formalities.

This afternoon an express arrived from Aberdeen to the Right Hon. the Lord Provost of this city, with advice, that five ships had been seen off the North coast on Thursday last. It is supposed to be the Hudson's Bay fleet, which sailed some time ago from the Orkneys for the river Thames.

Saturday next, the 10th inst. being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, there will be an ASSEMBLY, beginning precisely at five o'clock afternoon.

Tickets to be had at Mr. Hutton's shop, at the Cross, Mr. Laurie's laboratory, at the head of Niddry's Wynd, and at Mr. James Stirling's at the Black Bull.

Leith, Nov. 31. Arrived here, the *Williams* of and from Dundee, Bell, with bale and other merchandise; the *Charles* of and from Edinburgh; the *Condé*, with iron; the *Isabella*, Henderson, from Alloa, with wine; the *Happy Jane*, Shiris, both of Leith, from Bymouth; the *Alexander* and *John* of and from Dunbar, Quarrier, both with grain; and the *Lyon* cutter, Slee, one of Commodore Boyce's squadron. On Thursday came up to the road, the *Dolphin* man of war, Capt. Marlow, from the North, as did also the *Six Sisters* of and from Christiansburg, Neilson, with wood; and this day sailed from thence, the *Betty* of Leith, Cunningham, for Antigua and Guadalupe.

Sailed from the harbour, the *Charles* and *Peggy* of Leith, Home, for Inverness, with merchant goods; the *Eutops* of Dysart, Notmand, for Spain, with grain; and the *Endeavour* Goodwill of Leith, Thomson, for South Berwick, to load with grain, for Leith.

High Water at Leith.

	Moon's Age.	Moon Rises.	Moon Sets.
Monday	16 00	Even 00	17 2 43
Tuesday	17 4	30 3	9 3 35

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MR. FERGUSON PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY in the UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, will begin his LECTURES, on Tuesday the thirteenth of the present November.



PERTH, October 30th, 1759.

THE Heritors of the County of Perth, having met this day, did recommend to Lord John Murray, their Representative in Parliament, to use his utmost endeavour to prevent the continuance of the prohibition of distilling spirits from barley, because the present low price of barley was a very great discouragement to agriculture, and the want of home-made spirits, increased the consumption of French brandy, which had been imported and smuggled into this kingdom in very great quantities, since the said prohibition had taken place, whereby the specie was taken out of the country, and our enemies enriched; and because the price of sugar is greatly raised, by the prodigious quantity of Molasses now distilled; the duties arising from spirits made of this and other foreign materials, for the year last past, being near equal to the duties on spirits, when the distilling from barley was permitted.

THE Battalion of HIGHLANDERS, to be forthwith raised, under the command of STAATS LONG MORRIS, Esq; and in which his Grace the DUKE of GORDON is to have the command of a company, is to consist of one Lieutenant Colonel, two Majors, seven Captains, eighteen Lieutenants, nine Ensigns, thirty-six Serjeants, thirty-six Corporals, eighteen Drums, and nine hundred private men, and is now on the establishment of full pay for officers and men. The officers to have rank in the army, and half pay whenever his Majesty shall think proper to reduce the corps. Mr. Morris has the appointment of the officers.

To be SOLD,

BY SAMUEL DONALDSON, at his shop at the foot of the Broad Wynd, Leith.

A Cargo of fine pickled HERRINGS, in wholesale or retail, viz. at 7s. 6d. per firkin, 12s. 6d. per half barrel, 11s. 4s. per barrel, and 14l. per last, ready money. Likewise, to be sold, at the said shop, fine Lisbon Limons, new imported, in wholesale or retail, with Barcelona nuts, Spanish nuts, Walnuts, Gloucester and Cheshire cheese, Zeland ling, and rusk fish.

N. B. Commissions from the country shall be punctually obey'd.

By Order of the TRUSTEES for the CREDITORS of the deceased ROBERT MURRAY of GLEN-CARNOCK,

THE SCHEME of DIVISION of the ESTATE of the said Robert Murray being now framed, his creditors, and all others concerned, are desired to look at the same, in the hands of Thomas Boswall Accountant, at his chamber in the Parliament Close, and to give in any objections they may have thereto, betwixt and the twentieth instant; with certification, if no objections are offered, betwixt and that day, the trustees will directly sign the same, and pay the creditors dividend, in terms thereof.

To be SOLD,

THAT DWELLING HOUSE, consisting of two stories and garrets, with several office-houses, and a garden of an acre of ground, lying at the foot of Leith-walk, as the same is presently possessed by Robert Bull junior.

For particulars, enquire at Patrick Hagart, to be found at the writing-chamber of Mr. John Pringle, Writer to the Signet, who will show the progress of writ, and commune with any person who inclines to purchase.

THAT the Lands of BALMAE, lying in the parish of Kirkcubright; the lands of MIDDLETHIRD; the lands of KIRKLAND; and MILL of Kirkcormock, lying in the parish of Kelrown, and the lands of AUCHINFAD in the parish of Rerick, all in the stewartry of Kirkcubright, are to be sold jointly or separately, by way of roup, in John's coffeehouse in Edinburgh, upon Wednesday the 21st day of November inst. The progress of writs and conditions of roup, to be seen in the hands of George Muir Writer to the Signet.

THAT upon Wednesday the seventh of November, current, there is to be exposed to sale, in the second door of the Turnpike of the old Shoemakers land in Canongate, opposite to the Earl of Moray's lodgings, all kinds of

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, consisting of chairs, mahogany tables, tea tables, chimney and scone glasses, silver plate, table and tea china, with beds, feather beds, bed and table linen, Scots and English blankets, with variety of kitchen furniture, and a fine eight day clock. The roup to begin precisely at ten o'clock before noon, and to continue till all is sold off.

N. B. The house, consisting of two large bedrooms, a large dining-room, and a small room, with kitchen and other conveniences, is to be let from Martinmas and Whitlundy next. Enquire at John Mellison, Writer in Edinburgh, at his house in Befs Wynd.

GREENLAW, October 30. 1759.

THE JUSTICES of PEACE, in the county of BERWICK, assembled in a quarter session, taking into consideration the appearance of commissions and instructions to Deputy Lieutenants in this county, which refers to acts of parliament, by which the subjects are to be armed, and provided at their own expence, under various penalties, and the total want of arms in this county; think it their duty to give this publick notice, that they have adjourned this court to Tuesday the 6th of November inst. and have desired the Conveener of the Commissioners of supply for this county to call a meeting of them, at the same time and place, that in a matter so interesting to this whole country, every heritor may be informed, that they intend then to consider of an humble address to his Majesty on that occasion, to assure him of their zealous attachment to his Majesty's sacred person and government, and the present happy establishment.

TO be LET for a term of years, upon the 10th day of January next, by publick roup, within John's Coffeehouse at Edinburgh,

The COAL and SALT WORKS, belonging to his Grace the DUKE of HAMILTON, at Borrowstownness, in the county of Linlithgow. The entry of the Lessees to be at Candlemas 1760.

There are eleven different seams of workable coal, from nine foot to thirty inches thick. The coal are of a very good quality, have answered at the London and foreign markets, and along the whole eastern coast of Scotland, which together with the country sale afford to these works, a demand for the produce of a hundred coal-burners, and upwards, fifty of whom, and about seventy coal-bearers, being natives of the coalliery, will be set along with the said works.

All these coals, either are or may be drained by two fire engines, presently standing upon the ground, to the deepness of betwixt thirty-five and forty fathoms below the level of high-water-mark, besides the certain prospects of a very large field of six seams of the same coal, to be drained by a free level, which is now run about eight hundred fathoms, and is at present within one hundred fathoms of these coals.

For the better disposing of the culm or smallest size of the coal, there are already built, and in very good going condition, fifteen salt pans, with salt cellars, bucket, ponds, and every other convenience fit for a very great salt-work. There are about thirty native salters who will likewise be set along with the works.

These coal and salt-works are most commodiously situated upon the shore and beach of the Firth of Forth, about twelve miles west from Edinburgh, and within 500 yards of an excellent harbour at Borrowstownness, which will admit of ships of about 300 tons burden, where all the coal and salt may be shipped, free of custom, shore-dues, anchorage, and other burdens exigible at other ports in Scotland, upon such commodities.

The works will be shown by John Burrell present Overseer of the coal and salt works at Borrowstownness, and the articles and conditions of the offer, are to be seen in the hands of Andrew Stuart Writer to the Signet at Edinburgh, who will treat with such as incline to take a lease of the premises, by private agreement, before the day of the roup.

To be SOLD,

BY publick voluntary roup and sale, within the house of Mrs. Macqueen, Inn-keeper in Dunfermline, upon Wednesday the 21st of November inst. betwixt the hours of two and three afternoon,

The Lands and Estate of ANGELRAW, with the tithes and pertinents, lying in the parish of Greenlaw, and thire of Berwick. This estate is of very fine soil, easily improved, excellently well watered, and conveniently situated; being only four miles from Kelso, five from Dunfermline, and same distance from Coldstream. There is a neat garden, with some planting, and inclosures of considerable value on the premises, and a tolerable house, consisting of six fire-rooms, beside brew-house, cellars, stables, and other offices. The tenants houses are all in good repair. The lands holden of the crown for payment of seven marks Scots money of fee-farm yearly. The neat rent is 77l. 11s. Sterling. The rental, conditions of sale, and progress of writs (which are quite clear) are to be seen in the hands of James Lorain, Sheriff-clerk of Berwickshire, at his office in Dunfermline, or in the hands of James Purvis, Writer to the Signet at Edinburgh, and of the proprietor himself at Angelraw.

STAMP-OFFICE, Edinburgh, 18th October, 1759.

WHEREAS, by an act of parliament, past in the 19th year of his present Majesty's reign, intitled, 'An act for granting to his Majesty a DUTY upon LICENCES for RETAILING BEER, ALE, and other EXCISEABLE LIQUORS, &c. It is enacted, that from and after the feast of Easter, 1756, there shall be, throughout the kingdom of Great Britain, raised, levied, collected, and paid to his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, a duty of TWENTY SHILLINGS for every piece of vellum or parchment, or sheet or piece of paper, on which shall be engrossed, written, or printed, any licence for selling ale, beer, or other exciseable liquors by retail.

And it is further enacted, That every person in that part of Great Britain, called Scotland, who shall keep an ale-house, tipping-house, or victualling-house, or shall sell ale, beer, or other exciseable liquors by retail, without being licensed thereunto, according to the directions of the said act, and shall be thereof convicted, within one month after such offence committed by any two Justices of the peace of the thire or stewartry, or by any two Magistrates in any royal burgh, where such offender shall reside or be licensed, every such offender shall forfeit and pay, for the first offence, the sum of five shillings, for the second offence the sum of ten shillings, and for the third offence the sum of twenty shillings, and shall, after the said third offence, be incapable of keeping an ale-house, tipping-house, or victualling-house, or of selling ale, beer, or other exciseable liquors by retail, by virtue of any licence granted before such conviction, or of having any licence for such purpose, thereafter, and if any such offender, shall continue to commit any of the foresaid offences, then such offender shall, for every offence subsequent to his third conviction, forfeit and pay the sum of forty shillings; all which respective penalties and forfeitures may be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of every such offender (rendering to him or her the overplus, after the charges of the said distress and sale are deducted) by warrant signed by the Justices or Magistrates respectively, who do convict such offender, which said penalties shall be paid and applied, one half thereof to the informer, and the other half thereof to the poor of the parish, where such offence shall be committed, and such conviction signed.

And whereas sundry persons have presumed, notwithstanding the said act, to keep tipping-houses and victualling-houses, and to sell ale, beer, and other exciseable liquors by retail, without being possessed of a licence from the Justices of the peace of the thire, or Magistrates of the royal burghs, within which such persons do respectively reside. This, therefore, is to certify all concerned, that the Commissioners of his Majesty's Stamp-duties, have given orders to prosecute every offender, for the penalties of the said act, with the utmost rigour; and every person giving information shall, upon recovering the penalties, not only receive the moiety of the same, but also, if they desire it, have their names concealed, and they may apply to the Solicitor of the Stamp-duties at his office in Edinburgh, or to the Sub-solicitors throughout Scotland.

JOHN YOUNG, Solicitor.

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